

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 21, 2018

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

As you work to complete your final Fiscal Year 2020 budget, we urge you to fund the Long Island Sound Geographic Program at \$20 million. This year, Congress reauthorized the Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Act, which allows Congress to allocate up to a \$65 million a year in grants for Long Island Sound. Our request of \$20 million is less than a third of the full allocation, yet will support numerous local efforts to improve water quality and restore shoreline habitats.

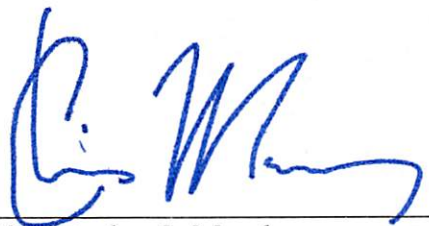
The Long Island Sound estuary spans more than 1,300 square miles of coastline in Connecticut and New York, yet the Long Island Sound watershed covers 16,000 square miles across six New England states. The Sound is a proven economic driver in the northeast, generating at least \$17 billion to the regional economy from the transportation, fishing, and recreational activities it supports.

Long Island Sound Geographic Program funding has allowed local communities across the watershed to make significant progress in improving the Sound. In the most recent award year, projects spanned four states and included funding for building environmentally friendly coastal resiliency structures, monitoring water quality, constructing fishways, reducing nitrogen pollution, and protecting marine life.

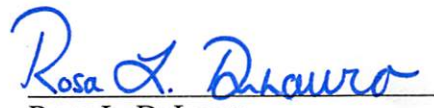
If we consider the status quo acceptable, the Long Island Sound and the coastline we know today will not be recognizable to the next generation. As a result, the vibrant business community and economic activity the Sound supports will dwindle.

Thank you for your attention to this request, and we encourage you to request \$20 million for the program in your final Fiscal Year 2020 budget.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



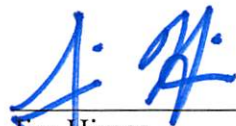
Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



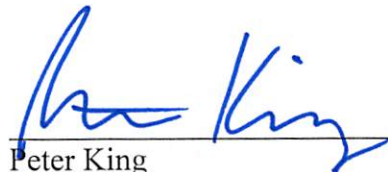
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress



Peter King
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress

Christine Hillman

Chas. E. ...

Thomas R. ...

Richard ...

Dr. Cantor

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